

FOOD CRISIS NOW GROWING TO MENACING PROPORTIONS

Wheat Crop in Kansas Loses
More Than Fifty Per Cent of
Its Normal Size While Potato
Crop Threatens To Be Short

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE POINTS OUT NEEDS OF LAND

Talk of Prohibition Revived By
Many Semi-Public Organiza-
tions As One of the Best Means
of Meeting the Present Peril

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

WASHINGTON, April 21.—The seriousness of the food situation throughout the United States and the need for the conservation of every pound of food products raised throughout the land is being emphasized by events as well as by officials of the administration.

Reports from Kansas yesterday announced that fifty-five per cent of the entire wheat crop of the State has now been abandoned, leaving the smallest acreage in that crop since 1897. The output will be fifty-one million bushels less than in 1916, according to the official statement issued in Topeka.

On the heels of this announcement, which has been forecast lately, came the comparatively unexpected report from the great sheep raising communities of the Rocky Mountain regions, that the bitter weather of winter has been responsible for tremendous losses among the sheep flocks.

It is reported by the government forestry experts that probably twenty per cent of the sheep in Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah and Nevada have perished.

Secretary of Agriculture Houston in a formal letter to the senate yesterday touched upon these and other features of the food situation, and alluded to the saving effected by the warring nations in Europe by cutting down the amounts of grain used by those countries for the manufacture of alcoholic drinks. He did not, however, make any recommendations in this matter, confining himself to the outlining of the various factors in the situation. He estimated that this country annually expends one hundred and forty-five million dollars' worth of food stuffs for the manufacture of liquor.

Suggestions by various semi-public bodies such as the Daughters of the American Revolution, which have urged that the government announce a policy of strict national prohibition during the period of the war, brought forth yesterday the statement from various officials of the administration that at present nothing of the sort is being contemplated by those in authority. "No early action in that direction is planned at present," is the way some of them put it.

The steady rise in the price of food throughout the whole of the United States brought from Secretary Houston yesterday the formal request to the senate that permission be given to the council of national defense to control prices.

Houston declares that to meet the situation the department of agriculture needs the power "to license and supervise the operation of all plants, mills, packing houses, canneries, slaughterhouses, breweries, distilleries, storage plants and other plants of all kinds where food and implements for agriculture purposes are manufactured or sold. In case of emergency the government should have power to purchase, store and dispose of food at maximum and minimum prices. Twenty-five million dollars is required to carry out our plans."

Secretary Houston also issued a call to the Boy Scouts of America to assist in the "home garden movement" which has been started everywhere. He asks that the Scouts observe April 21 as "National Planting Day". The

PLAN TO DIVERT COAST SHIPPING

Council of Defense Calls Steam-
ship Men and Railroad
Heads To Conference

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

WASHINGTON, April 21.—The National Council of Defense yesterday issued a call to the heads of railroads and coastwise shipping firms for a conference to be held here Monday.

It is understood that it is the intention to discuss the questions of transportation of supplies to the Allies from interior points and also the best means of coordinating the work of the steamship lines and the railroads so that as little as possible time shall be lost. One proposal of the council is believed to be that the country divert for the time being the coastwise shipping for use in the transatlantic traffic, and one of the reasons for calling the railroad heads is to gain as soon as possible a comprehensive view of the effect that the war has and also to learn if possible just what steps the railroads can take to compensate for the loss of the steamship service.

GREAT STRIKE IN GERMANY GROWING

Chancellor Hardens His Heart
and Denies Request of
Workers' Delegates

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

AMSTERDAM, April 20.—The Berlin Lokal Anzeiger, semi-official newspaper of the government, says that Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg has declined to discuss the situation with a deputation representing 20,000 striking workmen.

Four factories of Berlin have decided to continue the strike, says the news.

Reports have reached here that the great industrial strikes in Germany have now spread to the munition plants. It is said that workmen are refusing to continue in the huge Krupp plant at Essen.

Despatches from Copenhagen, says that according to the radical German newspaper Vorwaerts, the strike continues everywhere in Berlin.

MODIFIED CENSORSHIP CAUSE IS RETAINED

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

WASHINGTON, April 20.—By a vote of forty-three to thirty-three the senate this afternoon defeated a motion to strike the entire censorship clause from the espionage bill. By a vote of forty to thirty-four the senate rejected a substitute designed to modify the provisions of the censorship.

BRITISH SURGEONS ARE SUMMONED TO WAR

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

LONDON, April 21.—The growing need for medical officers to handle the wounded on the battle fronts and in the great base hospitals has forced the British government to take a step which has long been contemplated, but deferred because of the need of doctors at home. Yesterday it was announced that all physicians and surgeons with a medical training of a military age are to be called to the colors for immediate service.

RUSSIA NAMES ADMIRAL COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

PETROGRAD, April 20.—Admiral Koltchak, commander of the Russian Black Sea fleet has been appointed commander-in-chief of all the Russian naval forces in the Baltic.

Call has been issued to the 218,000 members of the organization. While the officials of the government are lending every nerve toward increasing the stocks of food throughout the country private organizations and individuals are also doing what they can to assist. Mayor Thompson of Chicago, who is the head of the "home garden" movement announced yesterday that an expert investigator for Armour and Company, the big meat packers, had declared that if "every seed potato in the country is planted the potato crop will be twenty-five per cent under the normal," and urged the people of the city to conserve potatoes as much as possible.

Restaurants and hotels through the land are coming to the assistance of the government in this particular, and from Columbus, Ohio, last night came the report of a plan that is likely to be followed widely elsewhere. The hotel proprietors of that city, after a conference with the governor declared that for the future they will save the eyes of all the potatoes they use in their kitchens and will distribute them to the "back yard gardeners" of Columbus gratis.

BRITISH WELCOME UNITED STATES AS NEW WAR ALLY

Great Celebration Attended By
Thousands and King and Queen
Held in the Historic St. Paul's
Cathedral While Stars and
Stripes Flies Over Their Head

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

LONDON, April 20.—With a solemn religious ceremony and with public rejoicing, the entry of the United States into the war against the Germans was celebrated today.

A religious service at St. Paul's Cathedral focused the principal celebration commemorating America's partnership in the war with the British Allies. The Stars and Stripes floated from the highest tower of Parliament Building—the first time a foreign flag has been so displayed.

The service in St. Paul's was unprecedented, in that it was in commemoration of the act of another nation. The king and royal family and all ministers, as well as members of the American embassy and representatives of the other Allies were present, and thousands of persons crowded the famous halls.

PLANS FOR BIG LOAN COMPLETED

Secretary McAdoo Announces
That First Call For Sub-
scriptions Coming Soon

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

WASHINGTON, April 21.—The Administration has completed its plans for lending to the Entente Allies such part of the seven billion dollars granted by congress as the law provides, and Secretary McAdoo announced yesterday afternoon that the first call for subscriptions to the bond issue will go forth in a few days—possibly Monday.

The secretary has not as yet decided upon the rate of interest which will be paid on these securities, but it is understood that a number of the leading bankers of New York and other big cities are prepared to take a not inconsiderable portion of the loan at two and one half per cent. The law authorizes the treasury to pay three and one half per cent.

THOUSANDS OF TINS OF OPIUM FOR ARMY

Drug Valued At \$280,000 Sent
East From Seattle For
Government

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

SEATTLE, April 21.—Government officials yesterday announced that four thousand tins of opium seized from time to time during the last three years in the Puget Sound district, and valued at \$280,000, will be sent to Washington, to be used by the medical department of the army, and others. This step was taken under the orders of the treasury department.

The official order designating the mobilization of two companies at a time has materially relieved the tension of the military situation on Maui. With only two companies in Honolulu at a time, the drain on the commercial and labor field in the island will not be felt. It is understood that this same system will be applied to other island detachments when the mobilization order is given.

Sgt. G. T. Watson, the instructor of militia on Maui, completed an inventory of the property which is needed by Maui companies to equip them up to the strength of eighty-five men. At the present time the companies are equipped up to a personnel of sixty-five men.

A PARENT'S DUTY

Your boy is always getting scratched or cut or bruised. Because these wounds have healed all right is no sign they always will. Get a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm and you will find every injury is cured for immediately. You can get nothing better and less dangerous is too dangerous a disease to risk. For sale by all dealers. Remo Smith & Co., Agents for Hawaii.—Advertisement.

THREE HUNDRED OF KAISER'S SPIES MAY BE ARRESTED

Department of Justice Announces
That Secret Service Men
Are On Trail

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

SAN FRANCISCO, April 21.—Orders for the mobilization of the whole Western Department were issued last night, to take effect May 1, or as soon thereafter as possible.

The reserves for the Coast Artillery Corps, Infantry, Cavalry and Field Artillery, both light and heavy, have also been called to the colors.

This list includes all men who enlisted for seven years, and were discharged to the reserve after the expiration of three years with the colors. Men of this class, however, who have been more than three years out of the active ranks of the army are not called and as yet.

SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN UNDER SURVEILLANCE FOR WEEKS

Activities Prior To the Outbreak
of War With Germany Led
To Their Discovery

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

WASHINGTON, April 21.—Officials of the department of justice last night announced that they expect to arrest more than three hundred Germans who have been under close surveillance because of their activities prior to the declaration of war. It is believed that the arrests will be made within twenty-four hours.

Under the heading "Seized as Master Spy," the Chicago Herald of April 8 tells of the arrest in New York of a number of spies, and gives a table of arrests which had been made by the secret service men of the United States since that date. The table shows that twelve had been arrested in New York, seventeen in San Francisco, six in Philadelphia, two in Cleveland, one in Youngstown, Ohio, and in Chicago.

The report from New York continues: "One of the 'master spies' of Germany's vast system of espionage was snared here today by United States secret service agents."

In addition detectives from the police department found in an apartment six rifles, two shotguns, eight revolvers, a quantity of ammunition and maps when they arrested two Germans who gave the names of Louis Maschiet and Charles Monachel. Drawing instruments, including compasses and gages, together with five locked suitcases, also formed part of this booty. The men were taken after the police had been called to investigate a report that firearms were concealed in the home.

In the arrest of Lieut. Col. Arthur E. Bielkowsky, aged retired German artillery officer, federal authorities believe they have taken one of the leaders of Germany's anti-American plotting machine in this country. His arrest was regarded as one of the most important strokes in a general roundup of alien enemies all over the country, which already has resulted in more than three-score arrests.

In the smash at the heart of the enemy spy system government agents found a parallel to the outstanding espionage system found in England. Lieutenant Colonel Bielkowsky is 79 years old and has been living in this country thirty years. He has at all times, federal agents say, been a representative of the enemy general staff and a close friend of the Kaiser.

"He is declared to have been drawing all through this period a pension of \$3,000 a year from the German government, and is said to have regularly submitted reports of all kinds."

Secret conferences of great importance have been held in the last three years in his office at 45 Broadway, and at these conferences, officials estimated, Captain von Papen, former military attaché at the German embassy, and Captain Roy-Ed, naval attaché, were important figures.

Bielkowsky has moved in the best New York circles. Never until he was seen recently in company with a young German reservist known to be a dangerous spy was he suspected of violating this country's laws.

All-Held Incriminated. Bielkowsky was sent to the Tombs to join eleven others that have been taken by local federal agents. All have been refused permission to communicate with relatives or friends.

It was explained they are being held as political prisoners incriminated, and their names probably will remain the same for the duration of the war. Several of the men were arrested appealed to the police for protection from the federal officers, contending they should not be arrested without warrants.

After Bielkowsky had been taken to the Tombs he communicated with Justice Henry D. Hotchkiss of the New York State Supreme Court and it was learned tonight that with the consent of John C. Knox, assistant United States district attorney, he had been paroled in the custody of Justice Hotchkiss.

A "prohibited zone" adjacent to the navyyard in Brooklyn was mapped out today by United States Marshal Power, and German citizens living within that territory will be directed to find quarters in other parts of the city. If they fail to comply within a short time, it was said, they will be ejected.

In San Francisco a dozen East Indians were found at the home of Ram Chandra, a Hindu, while others were arrested at the office of the Hinduistan Gadar, a Hinduist newspaper formerly edited by Ram Chandra. At that time papers were found showing the existence of a plot to bring about an uprising in India.

On the same date the government of officials operating in widely sections of the country arrested two Germans in Cleveland, together with one hundred and ten guns and large quantities of ammunition, and in Denver ten men attempted to tear down an American flag, and an unsuccessful attempt was made to burn a national guard armory at Neillville, Wisconsin. As far away as Jacksonville, Florida, the secret service men found German spies at work among the negroes, attempting to stir trouble.

MOBILIZATION IN DEPARTMENT OF WEST IS ORDERED

Instructions Issued By the War
Department Sets Wheels Mov-
ing Through the Great Western
States—May First Is Date Set
For the Gathering of Troops

(Associated Press by United States Naval
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WILSON PLANNING TO AID RUSSIANS

Will Create Commission To Map
Out Methods For Aiding
Slavic Democracy

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

WASHINGTON, April 21.—President Wilson, it was announced last night, will, within a few days, appoint a number of distinguished citizens to serve upon a commission to consider ways in which the United States can assist the growth of the democratic idea in Russia, as well as to formulate ways and means for carrying on the war against the Prussian autocracy.

It is believed that former secretary of war under President Roosevelt, Elihu Root, will be asked to serve as chairman of the commission and the personal spokesman of the President.

It is intended to call upon the leaders of thought in many different walks of life, to serve upon the commission. There are to be representatives from commercial circles, railroads, financial and other branches of industry, as well as a number of prominent military experts.

Referring to the government's plan of shipbuilding, he said: "An association such as ours—representing the liner interests in Liverpool, London and Glasgow—is warranted in uttering a warning against the policy of concentrating on the building of nothing but tramp tonnage of low speed. It is the liners which have carried and are still carrying the bulk of the nation's food supplies, and of the cotton and wool required in our factories."

"It is the liners who have proved by their speed, manning and defensive armament, best able to meet the submarine peril. There is no necessity and no desire to install at present, passenger accommodation in new ships, but it is of the first importance that the building of the liner of great carrying capacity and of good speed should be pushed on as rapidly as the building of any other type of vessel."

Mr. Lantry said the premiums paid on insured vessels had covered ninety-five per cent of the losses on all voyages started since the beginning of the war. Losses sustained from the activities of the German raiders Emden, Karlsruhe, Moewe and submarines, had been heavy but that they should be almost covered by premiums at the rate of little over one-half of one per cent per month was a magnificent tribute to the navy.

On the question of concentrating all the energies of the nation upon the manufacture of merchantmen and submarine chasers, but he has not definitely made up his mind regarding suggestion that work upon the battle cruisers and other capital ships be discontinued for the time being and the men and material turned to the task of rushing construction of merchant craft.

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BIGGER ARMY BILL TO COME UP TODAY

Measure Will Be Called In Senate
This Morning—Debate
Likely To Be Long

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

WASHINGTON, April 21.—The Army Bill will come before the senate today.

Although the friends of the measure are confident that it will be passed in the upper house, as they believe they have a majority there, they are not making any predictions regarding the length of time it will take to get the bill through.

Indeed it was asserted last night that a lengthy debate upon the measure is certain now and that several days probably will elapse before it comes to the vote. It is hoped, however, to get a vote on the measure in the lower house by Thursday of next week, and possible before.

The senate yesterday passed without much debate the bill providing for raising the age limit of officers in the naval reserve from thirty-five to fifty. This measure which has already passed the house, will be in effect only during the continuance of this war.

The upper house also passed the house measure providing for an increase in the number of midshipmen in the naval academy at Annapolis by about 540 annually.

SPEEDY LINERS TO FIGHT SUBMARINES

Shipping Expert Points To Need
of Making Fast Steamers
For Britain

(By The Associated Press)

LONDON, April 21.—Building of fast liners capable of strong defensive armament against submarine attack, instead of concentrating upon the construction of tramp steamers of low speed, was advocated by J. Bruce Ismay, chairman of the London War Risk Association, at the annual meeting of that organization.

Referring to the government's plan of shipbuilding, he said: "An association such as ours—representing the liner interests in Liverpool, London and Glasgow—is warranted in uttering a warning against the policy of concentrating on the building of nothing but tramp tonnage of low speed. It is the liners which have carried and are still carrying the bulk of the nation's food supplies, and of the cotton and wool required in our factories."

"It is the liners who have proved by their speed, manning and defensive armament, best able to meet the submarine peril. There is no necessity and no desire to install at present, passenger accommodation in new ships, but it is of the first importance that the building of the liner of great carrying capacity and of good speed should be pushed on as rapidly as the building of any other type of vessel."

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FRENCH STILL GO FORWARD ON DRIVE TO TEUTON BASE

Continue to Gout Invaders From
the Positions He Has Held For
So Long Between Sore Tired
Cities of Rheims and Soissons

(Associated Press by United States Naval
Radio Service)

PARIS, April 21.—The French army is still pressing the Germans back every where between the Soisson front and the sectors north of Rheims.

Everywhere on the front the French are regaining the ground that was wrested from them nearly three years ago by the invaders of their country and are slowly but steadily thrusting their way in the direction of Laon, the southern key of the von Hindenburg line.

They also extended their offensive yesterday for the official communiqué issued from Paris last night tells of shattering strokes delivered by the poitins in the Argonne region, where the German second line trenches were penetrated and afterward consolidated by the attack launched from French headquarters. Here too the Germans are reported to have suffered tremendously by the artillery fire of their assailants, for the French found their trenches and communication trenches littered with dead.

On the famous Vauclerc Plateau, the scene of so many bloody fights of the past two and one-half years, the Germans gathered themselves for a great counter stroke, but their attacks were broken under the hammering of the Gallie seventy-fives and machine guns, and went reeling back to the Teutonic trenches.

Berlin last night was forced to admit that the German lines along the banks of the famous river Aisne, between Fort de Comle and Soupir, a distance of about three miles, had been broken. The German general staff also admitted the loss of the positions in that front known as the "Stierfried forts," but claims that "the second French attempt to break through our lines in the Champagne country has resulted in a failure."

Victory for the British army was reported